

SERVICES THIS WEEK

There will be no Evening Worship on Zoom this week.

This week:

Weekdays:

Mon – Fri 8.30am Morning Prayer
Weds 10.00am Holy Communion
(followed by open church)

Next Sunday:

5th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion
10.00am Holy Communion
6.30pm Choral Evensong

Readings:

Acts 11:1-18
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35

Supporting ministry and mission at St Mary's

It costs about £1,600 a week to run St Mary's. If you would like to support the work of the church by regular monthly donations, please consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme. Forms are available at the back of church, or you can sign up by phone on 0333 002 1260 or online at parishgiving.org.uk. Donations can also be made by bank transfer to PCC St Mary's Church Selly Oak, sort code 40-11-20, account number 41565818. A Gift Aid declaration will add 25% to the value of your donations without cost to you – please ask a warden for a form.

Parish ministry team

Clergy

Revd Hazel White – 0121 4713517

Revd Jayne Adams 07894 167552

Revd David Parker 0121 445 1901/07532 338961

Licensed Reader

Mary Cutler 0121 472 3343

Church Wardens

George Harrison: 07831 573169 Martin Sorby 07982 850 444

Please note: Hazel usually observes Friday as her day off.

If you have any notices to add to the TWS, please email sarahjherbert@aol.com by the end of Tuesday for inclusion in the following Sunday's edition.

www.stmaryselloak.org.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/stmaryselloak/>

Parish of Selly Oak St Mary



TWS

This Week Sheet

Welcome

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 8th May 2022

Hymns: 209 27 681 464 650

Collect:

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen.

Readings:

Acts 9:36-43
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

Post Communion Prayer:

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

For your prayers:

Those who are unwell: Chris Dukes, Rosemarie Okot,
Diana Smith, Vicky Todd, Pat Westwood

If you would like to be added to our prayer list, or know someone else who would like our prayers, please email sarahjherbert@aol.com or speak to one of the clergy.

Church of England Birmingham Praying Together:
<https://www.cofebirmingham.com/being-a-christian/cofeb-praying-together/church-of-england-birmingham-praying-together-may-2022/church-of-england-birmingham-praying-together--may-2022.php>

St Mary's is here to proclaim and celebrate the love of God for all.

Diary dates

May

| | | |
|--------------------------|---------|---------------------------|
| Sun 8 th | 10am | All-age worship |
| Sun 8 th | 12.00 | Baptisms |
| Mon 9 th | 7.30pm | The Way Group |
| Tues 10 th | 7pm | Standing Committee |
| Sun 15 th | 11.15am | APCM |
| Mon 16 th | 9am | Doctors filming in church |
| Sat 21 st | 10.15am | Ramble and pub lunch |
| Tues 24 th | 7pm | PCC in church |
| Thurs 26 th & | 2pm | St Mary's CofE School |
| Fri 27 th | 9.30am | Services in church |
| Mon 30 th | 3pm | Wedding |

June

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|----------------------|-----|---------------|
| Sat 11 th | tbc | Car boot sale |
|----------------------|-----|---------------|

Current guidance on keeping safe

Please be aware of the updated NHS guidance on Covid symptoms. Masks are no longer compulsory in places of worship, but you are strongly encouraged to wear one when coming to receive communion. Please be sensitive to those who may prefer some space around them. For the time being we are offering bread only at the distribution of communion.

The Way Group

The Way Group will meet on Monday 9 May at the home of Laura Hart (36 Innage Road, Northfield, B31 2DU), gathering at 7.30pm to start at 7.45pm. Our topic will be 'Praying with Colour'. All welcome.

Ramble - Saturday 21st May - Clent Hills

Meet at 10.15 for a 10.30 start at The Vine Inn, Clent, DY9 9PH. The ramble will take us over parts of Adams Hill and Walton Hill, as well as paying a visit to St Kenelm's Church. Warning - the first part is steep (owing to the fact that I can't find a way of getting to the top of the hill without going up!) Lunch: meet 12.30 for 12.45 (I have high hopes the ramblers won't get lost this time!) Please sign up on the sheet at the back of church. NB I need to know your meal choices by Tuesday 17th May. Any questions, see me. *Kate*

Choral Evensong

Choral Evensong on Sunday 15th May will feature the famous Toccato by Charles Marie Widor. Please do join us for this service.

The Well

A creative service with space for you to contemplate your own pilgrimage and discover ancient wisdom and spiritual practices from the deep wells of our Christian sacraments and traditions. The Well next takes place on **Sunday 8th May at 6.30pm** with the theme LIVING THE RESURRECTION. Our speaker is Bishop Anne Hollinghurst. All are welcome to this fully accessible service held at St Francis Hall, the Multi-Faith Chaplaincy at the University of Birmingham.

Foodbank update

Many thanks for your continued support for the food bank. They are currently short of the following: squash, tinned spaghetti, instant meals for example pasta 'n sauce, microwave rice, pot noodles, shower gel, shampoo, men and women's deodorant, toothpaste. Donations of these items would be particularly appreciated.

Car Boot Sale, Saturday 11th June

Pitches for sale @ £10. Help welcomed – please see Kate or John Surtees for more information.

Church Summer Fete, Saturday 9th July

Details to follow, but anyone with ideas for running a stall, or who can offer help on the day, please see Kate, Miriam or Jayne.

St Mary's Annual Meeting

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held on Sunday 15th May following the 10am service. The meeting is open to all members of the church and includes the annual election of churchwardens, and elections to the PCC. There are a number of vacancies on the PCC, please contact Hazel if you would like to find out more about what's involved.

Book Group

We are enjoying being able to meet in the lounge at Bridgewater Court, and it has also been good to welcome some new members. Our next meeting will be at 7.30 on Wednesday 25th May, when we will be talking about The Diary of a Nobody by George and Weedon Grossmith – a change from all previously advertised texts for May!

Living in Love and Faith Deanery course

LLF (Living in Love and Faith), hosted by Revd Dele Sotonwa and Revd Jenni Crewes will take place on Thursday evenings from 5th May to 2nd June, 7:30-9:00pm at St Boniface Church, Quinton. The intention of Living in Love and Faith is not to change anyone's existing position but to offer a space to prayerfully listen to, hear, and try to understand stories and perspectives different from our own. The course extends a bold and hopeful invitation to explore together questions of identity, sexuality, relationships, and life together.

The Readings

The readings this week all give glimpses of what it means to follow Jesus. We go first to Joppa to witness a miracle of Peter's; then to encounter further extraordinary, *Revelationary* visions of John; and finally, back to Jesus' own dealings in Jerusalem. I am struck by how Peter is described as causing *many* to believe in the Lord, how by the time we get to Revelation, there are not just *many* but *multitudes* of worshippers, and yet how when we hear the Gospel verses, we are reminded that Jesus himself at times struggled to get any at all to believe in him.

Jesus always knew that a prophet would not be accepted in his hometown. Of course, he *did* gather disciples in his own time, but today's readings demonstrate how most followers of the Lord were won over not by meeting him, but by the power of what they came to know about him, through the efforts of those left to continue his work. Jesus does not raise Tabitha; Peter does, but only after prayer. The multitudes from every nation have clearly not met Jesus but have experienced his love through the acts of others. We are often drawn to behave in a certain way because we know it is what a loved one would have wanted. Today's readings suggest how, if that loved one is Jesus, the possibilities for remarkable occurrences are as multitudinous as those who love him.

Kate Cheyney